

Indiana House of Representatives

News and Information

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HOY BILL CREATING ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES TASK FORCE PASSED BY HOUSE

INDIANAPOLIS -- Senate Bill 195, legislation co-sponsored by State Rep. Phil Hoy (D-Evansville) that creates the Environmental Crimes Task Force, passed out of the House today by a vote of 93 -1.

"Something needs to be done to deter people from committing environmental crimes," said Hoy. "By focusing our attention on these types of crimes, we are demonstrating how seriously we view such infractions."

The responsibility of the task force will be to review types of environmental crimes and designate the appropriate class of criminal violation for each. The task force is required to file a report of their findings by November 2007.

The task force will be comprised of 18 members: 4 legislators, 2 state employees and 12 lay members. They will review the environmental crime statutes of other states and the federal government and, using this information, make suggestions to the governor regarding appropriate legislation and statutes for environmental crimes.

Senate Bill 195 returns to the Senate for concurrence on changes made in the House.